



Route 238 Working Group Meeting #1

March 26, 2003

Summary Notes

Attendees:

Roberta Cooper – Mayor
Jesús Armas – City Manager
Dennis Butler – Director of Public Works
Robert Bauman – Deputy Director of Public Works / City Engineer
Christine Monsen – ACTA representative
Jim Ogren – ACTA staff
Bob Billmire – citizen
Bob Brauer – CSUH representative
John Cavolowsky – citizen
Seth Kaplan – Rep. Nate Miley's representative
Audrey LePell – Citizens for Alternative Trans. Solution rep.; Viola Saima-Barklow, alternate
Sherman Lewis – Hayward Area Planning Association; Evelyn Cormier, alternate
Scott Raty – Chamber of Commerce; Ed Mullins, alternate

Items Discussed:

Jesús Armas opened the meeting by welcoming the group and briefly describing the selected alternate with project segments "A" thru "D" and their characteristics. He noted that the meetings would be conducted using a Brown Act format. Mayor Cooper indicated that she hopes the committee will have consensus as a goal and not start with any preconceived ideas. Since several alternate members were present, Jesús asked that each Committee Member confirm with the Council Member who appointed them that their alternate was OK.

Ms. Audrey LePell asked if the City was committed to property acquisition in Segment C. Jesús said that we plan to study whether an additional two or four lanes are needed and noted that the traffic congestion is most severe in Segments B and C. He said that we would be looking at whether some intersecting streets could be closed off to facilitate the traffic movements along Route 238 in this area. He also mentioned that the very rough estimated cost of the Project was \$150 million. In response to the question of whether proceeds of the sale from the former Route 238 was included in the funds available, Jesús mentioned SB 509, which is Senator Liz Figueroa's Bill to eliminate the 1988 deadline for submittal of a LATIP other than the previously approved Route 238 Bypass Project.

Mr. Seth Kaplan noted that he was concerned about the impact of the Project on the unincorporated area near Hwy. 580 and asked what the County's role would be. He suggested that City and County staff coordinate. Jesús concurred and asked Seth to suggest County staff members.

Mr. Sherman Lewis was concerned about how traffic moves through Castro Valley. Jesús noted that the new Measure B calls for a new westbound I-580 off-ramp west of Center Street and an eastbound on-ramp from Redwood Road so that traffic could have better access to and from Castro valley. Ms. Christine Monsen said that ACTIA has retained a consultant to do a Project Study Report on the Project, which will also look at a diamond interchange at Redwood Road at Hwy. 580. They have also submitted to Barbara Lee for possible Federal Demo funds.

Audrey asked for a step-by-step walk-through of the relinquishment process. Jesús indicated that relinquishment will require legislative action and then a formal plan would need to be submitted to the CTC. We will need to figure out the implications for the City and County. It is complicated because the State prefers State Highways to connect. He also mentioned that so far Caltrans is not involved because of the pending litigation on the Route 238 Bypass Project.

Sherman suggested that there should be discussions with Fremont, Union City and the County on relinquishing their portions of the State Highways and asked whether we would consider posting signs "To 238".

Jesús asked that members who have written memorandum should give them to staff in advance to distribute at the next meeting.

Jesús suggested that the members forward any questions to the staff for response. The group agreed to continue with meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 5:00–7:00 p.m. It was agreed that at the start of the meetings, non-members could comment on both Agenda and non-Agenda items. Jesús said that we would make summary notes of each meeting. Next meeting will be held on 4/23/03.